

7

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1- 4, 6-11, 13, 14, 16 -18, and 32-35, amended as set forth above.

Claim 12 and 15 were cancelled earlier. Claims 16 and 17 are hereby cancelled in favor of a Divisional application directed to a method of making a fuel cell current collector. A number of claims are said to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and intervening claims. To this end:

- (A) the limitations of claims 1 and 5 have been included in new claim 33, and claim 5 has been cancelled;
- (B) the limitations of claims 1 and 31 have been included in new claim 34, and claim 31 has been cancelled;
- (C) the limitations of claims 1, 18 and 32 have been included in new claim 35, and claim 18 has been cancelled;
- (D) Claims 2-4, 6 - 8 and 11, 13, and 14 are dependant on new claim 34, and are allowable therewith; and
- (E) Claims 9 and 10 are dependant on new claim 33, and are allowable therewith.

Claims 1 and 32 remain unaltered, and stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Cisar et al. 6,562,507 in view of either Braun et al. 2002/0039675 A1, or Bisaria et al. 6,379,795 B1, on the principal grounds that it would be obvious to substitute the "composite" current collector substrate of either Braun or Bisaria for the metal current collector substrate of Cisar. Applicants' respectfully traverse the rejections on the principal grounds that both the Cisar-Braun and the Cisar-Bisaria combinations are improper because no motivation for the proffered combinations has been shown, and Cisar et al. teaches away from such combinations.

7